

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached Replacement Sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 18 and 27. More specifically, FIGS. 18 and 27 have been amended to change “Unscheduled” to “Brake-in.” These sheets, which include FIGS. 17, 18, and 27, replaces the Replacement sheets filed on July 11, 2007 including FIGS. 17, 18, and 27.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the present amendment and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16, 25, and 28-30 are pending. In the present amendment, Claims 14, 15, and 28 are currently amended. It is respectfully submitted that support for the present amendment is evident from the original specification including the original claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; Claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101; and Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 25, 29, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Cho et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,944,943, hereinafter “Cho”).

The Office Action, at page 2, states that “[t]he added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: replacing ‘break-in’ with ‘unscheduled.’” In response, it is noted that “unscheduled” is replaced with “break-in” in the specification, drawings, and claims. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the amendment filed on July 11, 2007 be withdrawn.

In response to the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as discussed below.

As explained in the amendment filed on July 11, 2007, Cho does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) and (b), since the application publication and patent publication were both after the U.S. filing date of the present application. Thus, Cho is currently being cited as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Cho has a U.S. filing date of June 12, 2003. The present application claims foreign priority to JAPAN 2002-293839, which was filed on

October 7, 2002. Applicants submit concurrently herewith an English language translation of the foreign priority document for the present application, namely JAPAN 2002-293839, and a statement that the translation is accurate, thereby perfecting foreign priority. Since the foreign priority date of the present application is prior to the U.S. filing date of Cho and since foreign priority has been perfected, the present application antedates Cho, thereby removing Cho as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). (See, e.g. MPEP §706.02(b).)

Accordingly, the anticipation rejection based on Cho has been rendered moot. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the anticipation rejection and allowance of the application.

Consequently, in view of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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